

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RWBAKER:SM X20857

APPROVED BY AF:WHARROP

AF:RMMOOSE

AF/E:RPOST

S/P:PKREISBERG

NEA:SSOBER

S/S-O :JTHYDEN

-----034573 300507Z /13

P 300247Z MAR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 081714

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PBOR, SO, KE, ET, DJ

SUBJECT: MISSION OF SPECIAL EMISSARY TO SOMALIA: TALKING
POINTS

REF: STATE 077671

1. FOR BONN, LONDON, PARIS, ROME, COPENHAGEN, KHARTOUM,
NAIROBI, CAIRO, ISLAMABAD: FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS
ARE PROVIDED FOR YOUR USE IN BRIEFING HOST GOVERNMENTS
ON RESULTS OF MISSION TO MOGADISCIO OF SPECIAL PRESI-
DENTIAL EMISSARY MOOSE.

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(A) THE SPECIAL EMISSARY HAD FOUR LONG AND DETAILED
DISCUSSIONS WITH SIAD. THE DISCUSSIONS MADE SIGNIFICANT
PROGRESS TOWARD ESTABLISHING A BASIS FOR AN EXPANDED
U.S.-SOMALI RELATIONSHIP WHICH WE HOPE WILL ALSO CON-
TRIBUTE TO STRENGTHENING OF SOMALIA'S TIES WITH OTHER
FRIENDLY STATES.

(B) A MAJOR SUBJECT OF THE DISCUSSIONS WAS THE ASSURANCES WHICH PRESIDENT CARTER REQUESTED SOMALIA TO GIVE REGARDING RESPECT FOR ITS NEIGHBORS' TERRITORY (KENYA, ETHIOPIA AND DJIBOUTI) AS A CONDITION FOR SIGNIFICANT U.S. ASSISTANCE. THE DISCUSSIONS DEVELOPED THE BASIS FOR AN AGREEMENT

REGARDING THESE ASSURANCES, DESPITE THE VERY CONSIDERABLE SENSITIVITIES OF THIS SUBJECT FOR THE SOMALIS.

(C) PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE WAS EXCHANGED WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE THE ASSURANCES REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT CARTER. SOME FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS MAY BE NECESSARY BEFORE WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT REGARDING THIS QUESTION, HOWEVER, AND WE WOULD NOT WANT TO PREJUDGE THE OUTCOME OF ANY ADDITIONAL EXCHANGES WITH THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

(D) THE DISCUSSIONS ALSO COVERED SOMALIA'S NEEDS IN THE FIELDS OF RELIEF, DEVELOPMENT AND DEFENSE, AND THE POSSIBLE ROLE OF THE U.S. IN MEETING SOME OF THESE NEEDS.

(E) THE SPECIAL EMISSARY MADE CLEAR THE WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. TO PROVIDE ON AN URGENT BASIS FURTHER HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO SOMALIA AND TO CONTINUE ONGOING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES WHICH, AS CURRENTLY PROJECTED, WILL TOTAL DOLS. 8 MILLION IN THE FIELDS OF AGRICULTURAL
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DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS. WHILE IN MOGADISCIO, MR. MOOSE SIGNED A PL-480 AGREEMENT WHICH WILL INCREASE FOOD AID TO SOMALIA BY DOLS. 7 MILLION. THE U.S. ALSO INDICATED ITS DESIRE TO INCREASE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TO SOMALIA.

(F) IN THE DEFENSE FIELD, THE EMISSARY CONFIRMED THE WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. TO PROVIDE SOMALIA WITH SOME MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES. THE EMISSARY MADE CLEAR TO PRESIDENT SIAD THAT ANY MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SOMALIA WAS CONTINGENT ON REACHING SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT REGARDING THE ASSURANCES REQUESTED BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND WOULD BE STRICTLY RELATED TO SOMALIA'S LEGITIMATE DEFENSIVE REQUIREMENTS. NO SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED REGARDING SUCH FUTURE ASSISTANCE.

(G) THE EMISSARY ALSO DISCUSSED WITH PRESIDENT SIAD THE QUESTION OF THE NEED FOR A LONG-TERM RESOLUTION TO THE UNDERLYING PROBLEMS OF THE HORN REGION, INCLUDING THE PROBLEM OF THE UNDEFINED PORTION OF THE BORDER

BETWEEN ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA. THE U.S. SIDE ASSURED THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT OF OUR SUPPORT FOR PEACEFUL EFFORTS TOWARDS A JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION THAT WOULD PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF PROBLEMS IN THE OGADEN.

(H) THE RESULTS OF THE MISSION ARE NOW UNDER REVIEW

IN WASHINGTON. PRESUMING THAT THIS REVIEW AND POSSIBLE FURTHER EXCHANGES WITH THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ENABLE US TO PROCEED WITH AN EXPANDED RELATIONSHIP WITH SOMALIA, WE WOULD EXPECT SHORTLY TO CONSULT IN GREATER DETAIL WITH OTHER FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS AS TO HOW WE MIGHT MUTUALLY ASSIST SOMALIA, IN THE DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS THE DEFENSE FIELDS AND IN THE FINANCING OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.
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2. FOR BONN, LONDON, PARIS, ROME: YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO ADD FOLLOWING POINTS TO THE MATERIAL PROVIDED ABOVE, TO BE INSERTED RESPECTIVELY AFTER TALKING POINTS C AND F. (FYI: WE ARE BRIEFING WASHINGTON EMBASSIES AT WORKING LEVEL ON SAME BASIS THIS WEEK.) YOU SHOULD STRESS SENSITIVE NATURE OF THIS INFORMATION AND VERY LIMITED DISTRIBUTION WE ARE MAKING OF IT OUTSIDE USG AT THIS TIME. FOR ALL OTHER ADDRESSEES: THE INFORMATION GIVEN BELOW IS PROVIDED STRICTLY FOR YOUR OWN BACKGROUND AT THIS TIME AND SHOULD NOT BE REFERRED TO IN CONVERSATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS.

(C1) OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO OBTAIN SOMALIA'S ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL REFRAIN FROM USE OF FORCE AGAINST ANY OTHER COUNTRY FOR ANY PURPOSES OTHER THAN THE LEGITIMATE DEFENSE OF SOMALIA'S INTERNATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED TERRITORY. IN THE PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF LETTERS ALONG THESE LINES, SIAD CONVEYED THE ACCEPTANCE "IN PRINCIPLE" OF OUR PROPOSAL BY THE POLITBURO OF THE PARTY. WE HOPE TO OBTAIN AN UNQUALIFIED ACCEPTANCE OF OUR CONDITIONS IN THE NAME OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT.

(F1) IN THE DISCUSSION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE, SIAD PLACED STRONG EMPHASIS ON HIS DESIRE FOR TANKS, ARTILLERY AND AIRCRAFT, ITEMS WHICH IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE U.S. TO PROVIDE EVEN IF WE RECEIVE THE REQUIRED SOMALI ASSURANCES. SIAD EVINced LITTLE INTEREST IN AN INITIAL NON-LETHAL PACKAGE WHICH WE OFFERED FOR RAPID DELIVERY AS EVIDENCE OF THE NEW RELATIONSHIP. WE ARE CONSIDERING PROPOSING THE INCLUSION OF ANTI-TANK OR OTHER CLEARLY DEFENSIVE WEAPONS, ALONG WITH OTHER VERY VISIBLE ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT SUCH AS TRUCKS, IN SUCH
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AN INITIAL PACKAGE. WHETHER THIS WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO CONVINCE SIAD THAT A RELATIONSHIP WITH US IS WORTH THE POSSIBLE POLITICAL COSTS OF ACCEDING TO OUR TERMS REMAINS TO BE SEEN.

3. FOR JIDDA: UNLESS YOU BELIEVE ADVISABLE, WE SEE NO NEED FOR FURTHER APPROACH TO SAUDIS AT THIS TIME ON MOOSE MISSION, RESULTS OF WHICH WERE CONVEYED IN DETAIL

TO SAUDIS DURING MOOSE STOPOVER IN JIDDA.

4. FOR TEHRAN: AT YOUR DISCRETION, YOU MAY USE PARA ONE TALKING POINTS WITH GOI AS SUPPLEMENT TO OR IN PLACE OF POINTS PROVIDED IN STATE 79085.

5. FOR NAIROBI: PARA ONE POINTS SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION PROVIDED IN STATE 79061. IN PLACE OF LAST SENTENCE OF TALKING POINT (H), YOU SHOULD ASSURE GOK WE WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT CLOSELY ON THIS SUBJECT AND KEEP GOK INFORMED OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

6. FOR ADDIS AND DJIBOUTI: SEPTELS WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR DISCUSSION OF MOOSE MISSION WITH YOUR HOST GOVERNMENTS.

7. FOR OTHER ADDRESSEES: PLEASE REPORT ANY REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM YOUR GOVERNMENTS (OR ORGANIZATIONS) FOR INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT. WHILE WE DO NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO BE REFUSING TO SHARE INFORMATION ON OUR DISCUSSIONS, IN VIEW OF OBVIOUS SENSITIVITY OF PRESENT STAGE OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOMALIS WE WOULD LIKE FOR THE MOMENT TO RESTRICT DETAILED BRIEFINGS TO THOSE WITH DIRECT INTEREST IN HORN SITUATION.

8. FOR ALL: PLEASE REPORT ANY RELEVANT EXCHANGES ON
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THIS SUBJECT SOONEST. COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS, POLITICAL CONCESSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE081714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RWBAKER:SM X20857
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780137-0746
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978037/aaaaaftt.tel
Line Count: 218
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1d106ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 77671
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3335589
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MISSION OF SPECIAL EMISSARY TO SOMALIA: TALKING POINTS
TAGS: MASS, PBOR, PEPR, SO, KE, ET, DJ, US
To: HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE COPENHAGEN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1d106ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014